

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
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O 181202Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8646
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY VICTORIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 2131

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, KE, TZ, SE, US

SUBJECT: TANGOV REQUEST FOR US HELP IN IMPROVING KENYAN
ATTITUDE TWOARD SEYCHELLES

1. TANZANIA FOREIGN MINISTER MKAPA CALLED ME IN MAY 18 TO ASK FOR US HELP IN ENCOURAGING KENYA TO OFFER REASSURANCES TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SEYCHELLES THAT KENYA HAS NO HOSTILE INTENTIONS TOWARD IT. MKAPA SAID TANGOV HAD BEEN APPROACHED BY SEYCHELLES STRESSING FEAR OF THREAT TO ITS CONTINUED EXISTENCE BY KENYA. KENYAN REFUSAL TO DATE TO RECOGNIZE RENE GOVERNMENT AND SEYCHELLOIS CERTAINTY THAT KENYA WAS INVOLVED IN RECENT COUP PLOTTING WERE CITED. SEYCHELLOIS WANTED TANZANIA TO INTERCEDE WITH KENYANS TO LET THEM ALONE.

2. MKAPA SAID HE HAD TOLD "OUR GOOD FRIENDS" OF SEYCHELLES THAT TANZANIA HAD NO INFLUENCE IN KENYA BUT TANZANIA'S "GOOD FRIENDS", THE US AND THE UK, MIGHT BE ABLE TO BE HELPFUL ON THE MATTER. TANZANIA WOULD ASK THEM. MKAPA SAID HE HOPED WE COULD GET KENYANS TO GIVE SOME REASSURANCES IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER. RECOGNITION WOULD BE BEST, BUT IF THAT WAS NOT POSSIBLE, EVEN A STATEMENT OF FRIENDLY FEELING AND INTENT TO CONTINUE RELATIONS
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AS BEFORE WOULD BE HELPFUL. I SAID I WOULD REPORT REQUEST TO WASHINGTON AND EMBASSY NAIROBI.

3. I REALIZE THAT IT COULD BE AWKWARD FOR US --AND/OR UK -- TO TAKE INITIATIVE IN NAIROBI ON THIS MATTER AND I DEFER ANY FORMAL RECOMMENDATION ON IT TO AMBASSADOR LE MELLE. HOWEVER, IT WOULD SEEM FROM HERE THAT THE CAUSE IS A GOOD ONE IN OVERALL

US POLICY TERMS. ADDITIONALLY, TANZANIA HAS FOR SOME TIME NOW
BEEN VERY RESPONSIVE TO OUR REQUESTS FOR ITS CONSTRUCTIVE
INFLUENCE ON THE PATRIOTIC FRONT AND JRLPO; A LITTLE RECIPROCITY

WOULD SEEM TO BE IN ORDER IN MATTER OF SPECIAL IMPORTANCE TO
TANZANIA. WHILE RESPONSE NOTING SPECIFIC APPROACH TO KENYA
WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL, I WOULD LIKE AT LEAST TO BE ABLE TO

CONFIRM TO MKAPA THAT WE WILL DO WHAT WE CAN.
SPAIN

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NNN

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